

The delivery of the French mail was begun at 11.5 this morning.

In the case of Messrs. Harris, Goodwin, and Co., general merchants, of Leadenhall-street, Birmingham, Shanghai, Hongkong, Batavia, Singapore, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, and Christchurch (New Zealand), the accounts have been filed in the Bankruptcy Court in London. They show, or the joint estate, gross liabilities of £103,912 7s. 11d., of which £24,234 16s. 8d. is expected to rank against assets of £23,862 0s. 6d. The failure is attributed to losses on the Java and other branches and to falling markets.

The news received from Cambodia, says *Le Saigonais*, is far from being good. The application of the new instructions brought from France by M. Filippi have not as yet produced any satisfactory result. The diminution of the number of posts and residences, and the restitution of King Norodom to the greater part of his old privileges have provoked the audacity of the rebels, who are to-day less timid than ever, and the natural arrogance of the Court dignitaries, who think nothing of shouting victory on the house tops.

A CHINAMAN, named Lui Afo, went on board the *Decatur* yesterday while repairs were being made to some of the machinery and quietly put into his pockets three files which were lying on the deck. Fortunately his movements had been observed and just as he was leaving the ship he was put under arrest. On being taken to the station at West Point the Inspector at once recognised him as an old goat bird. He was accused at the Police Court to-day of stealing files belonging to the P. & O. Company, and was sentenced to six months' hard labour with three hours on the stocks on the first and last day of his imprisonment.

The Duke of Northumberland gave a garden party at Syon House on the 15th July, to the Colonial and Indian visitors sojourning in this country for the exhibition. Hongkong (according to the *L. & C. Express*) was represented by Mr and Mrs H. E. Wadehouse, Sir George and Lady Bowes and Misses Bowen, the Bishop of Victoria and Mrs Burdon, Mr and Mrs E. O. Malley, Mr and Mrs T. Jackson, and Mr and Mrs E. R. Bellios. Our contemporary is wrong in including the Bishop of Victoria as being among the representatives of Hongkong, as the Bishop has not been at home for some time past.

BARON von Sackendorff, German Consul at Swatow, arrived here this morning in the steamer *Thale*, for the purpose, we believe, of proceeding home to-morrow in the *Melbourne* on nine months' leave of absence. Before leaving Swatow, where he was exceedingly popular alike with foreigners and natives, the Baron was presented by about 200 of the leading Chinese merchants with a red umbrella as a testimonial of their appreciation for his courtesy and kindness in his dealings with them. The ships in port also dressed ship in honour of the Consul on the day of his departure. Mr. Butler has taken charge of the Consulate.

The first of the steamers built for the new German Mail line has been launched at Stettin from the Vulcan Docks, and has been named the *Preuße*. At a dinner which followed the launch, Herr von Bütticher, Secretary of State, spoke in praise of the success of this branch of German industry, and of German manufacturers in general, which, he said, would derive renewed strength from the subsidized lines. These lines, the Minister assured his hearers, are, therefore, regarded with anxiety by foreign nations. Herr von Bütticher concluded by proposing the Manger and Workmen of the Vulcan Works, who had shown themselves equal to the English. In a second toast the same Minister drank to a good understanding between China and Germany.

The following consular appointments have been gazetted:—The Queen has been gratiously pleased to appoint George Phillips, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Tsinan, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Foo-chow-foo; William Gregory, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Ichang; Thomas Watters, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Tamsui, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Chefoo; Edward Colborne Batur, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Ichang, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow; Herbert Allen Giles, Esq., now Her Majesty's Vice-Counsel at Shanghai to be Her Majesty's Consul at Tamsui; and William Richard Carter, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Vice-Counsel at Shanghai.—Most of these changes took place some months ago.

ATTRA referring to the opening of the new Reading Room at the Sailor's Home here, the *N. C. D. News* remarks:—There was a little too much of that goody-goody patronage of poor Jack, which spoilt so many efforts of this kind. The Bishop of course "condemned his heart" but to neglect the Bible among their other reading. Captain Thomasson thought the "oddly conduct of the man was very creditable to them; as it had not expected to find men invited to a tea preained over by ladies indulging in free fight across the table; while Mr. Macgregor gave the Jacks a regular sermon on service." The great mistake made at these so-called philanthropic functions is to treat the sailors as if they were an inferior, ignorant,

and childish lot of people, from whom any display of intelligence and decency of conduct is an unexpected surprise. Another great mistake is to get sailors together on pretences of amusing them and then to preach at them. The Temperance Hall entertainments here were well attended and very successful, while they were in the hands of a lay Committee; but by-and-by some of the missionaries got control of them, and tried to turn the meetings into semi-religious services, and all their usefulness was dissipated. We trust that the Hongkong Seamen's Reading Room, will avoid this rock, but the tone of the opening meeting is none too hopeful.

A MEETING of the General Committee of the Sir Harry Parkes' Memorial Fund was held in the Board room of the New Oriental Bank in London on the 13th July, under the presidency of Sir Alfred Alcock. The report of the Executive Committee stated that communications had been addressed to the several Chambers of Commerce in China and Japan, to which no definite answer had as yet been received. £276.17, however, had been collected in the old country, and this had justified the Committee in taking various preliminary steps.

They had obtained a site in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral for a bust in close vicinity to similar memorials of distinguished men in art, science and literature, and near the remains of Nelson and Wellington; and they had also obtained from Mr. Brock, an eminent sculptor, who had distinguished himself by many well-known works of art, a design for a bust in an architectural entablature, with space below for a few lines recording the eminent services of the deceased. This can be estimated at a cost of 250 guineas, with a possible addition for the colouring and erection of the architectural portion, but the whole not to exceed £300. With reference to the surplus, say £150, to the fund now collected, the Committee suggested that it might very fitly be employed in mural tablets or brass to be placed in the cathedral of Hongkong and Shanghai, the scene of his earliest labours, and in the Legation at Tokio, in Japan, where Sir Harry resided as Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for nearly twenty years. The recommendations of the Committee were approved by the meeting.

H. S. S. Martino Lanciari will look after Italian interests in Shanghai till another Consul arrives to take the place of Mr. V. Fini.—*N. C. D. News*.

H. M. S. *Zephyr* left Singapore for the Cocos Islands on the 11th instant, with Mr. A. P. Talbot, the Assistant Colonial Secretary, on board.

From Peking, under date of the 7th instant, the *Mercury* learns that the beginning of October has been fixed for the ratification of the settlement of the Kwangtung and Tongkin frontier question.

The *N. C. D. News* understands that on the 10th instant the Japanese Consul closed all the tea houses and other equivocal establishments carried on in the Model Settlement by his country people. The ships in port also dressed ship in honour of the Consul on the day of his departure. Mr. Butler has taken charge of the Consulate.

According to the *Strait Times* it is now said that the 2nd Battalion South Lancashire (32nd Prince of Wales's) Volunteers, now at Nanking, will be the regiment which is to end the *Ta-ku-ta* in Singapore about the end of the year.

A RIFLE match between The Buffs and the Singapore Rifle Association took place on the 7th instant on the Tsinlin Range. The conditions were 10 men a team, any position and ranges 200, 500, and 800 yards, 7 shots at each. After a close contest The Buffs proved victorious with a narrow majority of 8 points. The average shooting was poor. The Buffs total was 773, and that of the Association 765.

THE Shanghai Courier bears on good authority that two attachés of the Chinese legation in the United States have been discharged from their positions because they have cut off their queues and wear European clothes. One of the offenders is the well-known Yung Wing. When they received their notice of dismissal they were told by His Excellency, Cheng, that until their "falls" were renewed they must not expect "falls" for wages.

The Minister of State for communications in Japan has empowered special sanitary officials to open letters which are believed to be capable of transmitting cholera germs. This is really running into the ground: the sanitary officials must be uncommonly clever if they can distinguish dangerous from harmless letters; in fact, no minute are the cholera germs that the difficulty must be to decide what letters are not capable of transmitting them. This is throwing the Buffs wide open to importunity currently.—*N. C. D. News*.

On Sunday, 8th instant, an alligator, measuring 9 ft 7 in., was shot on Tsinlin Estate in the Strait Settlements as it was sitting on its eggs. It appears that a King engaged in catching was busily engaged on the alligator at the back of the Manager's house, and on giving the alarm, a number of men armed with bows and arrows, and a gun, shot the beast. The alligator was 12 ft long, 4 ft high, and 15 ft in circumference, in a low marshy jungle. The eggs numbered 36 and were about the middle of the heap, on the top of which, with gaping mouth, the old lady lay breathing. She had lost all her teeth and was in poor condition.—*Strait Times*.

A most ridiculous charge was preferred against Capt. Koenig of the ship *Sarmatian* in the British Consular Court, Shanghai, on the 12th instant, and was, after the evidence had been heard, most rightly dismissed by Mr. Jamison. The second officer of the ship had summoned the Captain for wilful destruction of property and assault. The evidence given went to show that the property, a watermelon, was thrown overboard by the Captain to keep it out of the way of the mate, who had been told by the Doctor not to eat melons. Hence the summons, and Mr. Drummond, whom the Captain had retained, expressed his surprise that a summons should have been granted on such a temporary charge.

The U.S.S. *Omaha* left Shanghai on the 10th instant for Port Hamilton en route to Hakodate. The *N. C. D. News* of the 10th instant has the following notes about the movements of the U.S. Men-of-war:—We notice that Admiral Davis has now hoisted his flag on board the *Marion*.—The U.S. S. *Marion* leaves here this week for Chefoo.—The *Faith* will leave Shanghai as soon as her repairs have been effected. These will be no United States man-of-war in port when she leaves.

The *Strait Times* of the 11th instant says:—We understand that a new line of small swift steamers to ply between Singapore, Muar, and Malacca, is now being established. The first of the line, the *Mary Austin*, started from Singapore on Monday last, the 9th instant. She is a somewhat old boat, and has been put on temporarily to make a beginning. She will be followed by two new boats at present being built on the Clyde, specially constructed for the Strait's passenger and produce trade, which will be completed and sent out with the *Marion*. This is a stop in the right direction, and one which will have to be speedily accomplished. A line of swift, comfortable passenger steamers plying in the Straits would be a great boon to the community, and could not fail of being strongly supported.

Says the *N. C. D. News* of the 9th instant:—A printed letter from Mme. L. M. Anderson, Astor House, addressed to a lady whose name appears in the Hong List, and headed "Caliphric—Clairvoyant—Revelations. Knowledge is Power." The New Odysseus has come into our hands, on receiving fees varying from \$2 to \$25, to answer any questions relating to the future history of the applicant. Unfortunately, Mme. Anderson's clairvoyance was not vivid enough to tell her that the lady to whom her letter is addressed went home some months ago. The questions are of vulgar fortune-telling kind, and we presume that the delay of two days which is stipulated for before an answer will be returned, is to enable the *soi-disant* clairvoyante to make the necessary enquiries before answering.

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Hongkong, January 1, 1882. 14

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS,

MARSEILLES, AND PORTS OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA;

LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to insure against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1882. 14

Mails.

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G. de CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, August 6, 1886. 1517

NOTICE.

Occidental & Oriental Steam-Ship Company.

TAKING GARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE, VIA THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC & OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE Steamship GAEIICU will be dispatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 24th Inst., at 3 p.m.

Connection being made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan ports.

All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; and same will be received at the Company's Office, until 5 p.m. the day previous to sailing.

RETURN PASSENGERS.—Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within six months, will be allowed a discount of 20% from Return Fare; if re-embarking within one year, no allowance of 10% will be made from Return Fare. These allowances do not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

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